

Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Hanwood Centre, Kinross Avenue
Tuesday, 28th June, 2016

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Carole Howard (Chair)	Mrs Michelle Bryans
Councillor Sonia Copeland	Mr Jonathan Currie
Councillor Aileen Graham	Ms Lisa McMaster
Councillor Mairead O'Donnell	Mr Steven McMillen
Councillor Tommy Sandford	
Designated Organisations	
Yvonne Cowan, H&SCT	Jimmy Moore, PBNI
Alison Methven, NIHE	D/Chief Inspector Gary Reid, PSNI
Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI	Michael Roberts, NIFRS
	Pauline Smart, EA
Staff Present	Apologies
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator	Mr David Geddis (Vice-Chair)
Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer	Jane Lappin, PBNI
	Dermot Magorrian, YJA

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the Meeting and noted the apologies provided.

2. Declaration of Interests

- i. Members were asked to declare any material interests which they may have in relation to any item of business to be considered during the meeting.
- ii. No declarations of interest were declared at the outset of the Meeting.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- i. Minutes of the East Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting held on 31st May, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
Proposed: Councillor Sonia Copeland
Seconded: Steven McMillen

4. Chairs Update on Belfast PCSP

- i. The Chair advised Members that the Street Pastors had given a presentation at the last meeting of the Belfast PCSP and that Members had agreed to look at ways in which the PCSP could support the organisation.
- ii. Members were also advised that the Begging for Change campaign had been launched on 20th June and was visible on billboards and adshels across the City.

5. East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a progress report on the delivery of the 2016/2017 Action Plan was contained within the papers, and that this report would be brought to Members at each meeting.
- ii. Members were advised that the Drug and Alcohol Services and Anti-Social Behaviour quotation documents were being finalised and would be due for distribution on 4th July with returns due before 22nd July.
- iii. Members noted the contents of the report and the update with regards to the two quotation documents.

6. Dreamscheme NI, Summer Intervention Project

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that in response to high levels of anti-social behaviour over the summer period, particularly in the run up to the 12th July celebrations, Dreamscheme Northern Ireland were proposing to deliver a programme of diversionary activities in the area of the Braniel Estate at a cost of £2,412.
- ii. Members were advised that the aims of the project included increasing positive attitudes and behaviours amongst young people, encouraging respect for the local people and area, and building good relations through 6 life skills workshops, 2 diversionary trips and 5 community work sessions.
- iii. Pauline Smart, Education Authority, advised Members that in reviewing the application she had come across funding from her organisation for a similar project. The Safer City Coordinator suggested that they meet to review the funding requests to ensure that there was no duplication of funding.
- iv. Members discussed the application and suggested that a question relating to what other funding had been applied for should be added to project proposal forms. Members also discussed whether the youth provision detailed within the application would be additional to worker's normal hours. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to look into both queries.
- v. Members also noted the good work done by the organisation and the need for diversionary activities over the summer period.
- vi. Members resolved to grant delegated authority to the Safer City Coordinator to investigate the possibility that duplicate funding had been applied for, and to progress the application as appropriate up to the value originally applied for.
Proposed: Michelle Bryans
Seconded: Councillor Sonia Copeland

7. Willowfield, Great Escape Project

- i. Members were advised that an application had been received from Willowfield Parish Community Association (WPCA) for funding to deliver an engagement and diversionary project between July and September as a way of diverting young people from anti-social behaviour and other risk taking behaviours at a cost of £2,758.50.

- ii. The Safer City Coordinator outlined the 5 elements of the project; Street Team engagement, a residential, follow up evenings, a celebration night/launch of the Youth Programme and the first evening of the Youth Programme.
- iii. Pauline Smart, Education Authority, advised Members that an application had also been received by her organisation relating to this project however it had referenced other funding that had been applied for. She informed Members that £3,000 had been awarded towards the total project cost of £13,000.
- iv. Members agreed that the project was deserving of DPCSP funding and approved the application.
Proposed: Lisa McMaster
Seconded: Steven McMillen

8. Short Strand, Summer Diversionsary Project

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a project proposal had been received from the Short Strand Community Forum for a project aimed at providing diversionary activities in the Short Strand area during the parades on 1st and 12th July, 2016 at a cost of £2,944.
- ii. Members were advised that project involved engaging 250 young people and 100 adults at events on both dates and diverting 60 teenagers identified as being at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour from the area. It was noted that large scale policing operations were required in the area on both dates and it was hoped that this project would support these efforts.
- iii. At the suggestion of a Member, the Safer City Coordinator agreed to request that the event be extended from 8.30pm to 9.30pm in order to cover the time that the bands were likely to be passing back past the area.
- iv. Members also asked that the costs associated with the coach hire and diesel costs were clarified with organisers.
- v. Following further discussion, Members approved the application and agreed to fund the project.
Proposed: Councillor Aileen Graham
Seconded: Lisa McMaster

9. Gertrude Star, Anti-Social Behaviour Project

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that he had recently met with the Gertrude Star Flute Band and PSNI to discuss how best to reduce anti-social behaviour at the forthcoming parade on 9th July (this date was incorrectly noted at 1st July within the reports but was clarified during the meeting following queries from Members). He advised that as a result of this meeting, the PSNI had agreed to place barriers at critical anti-social behaviour hotspots on the route and provide marshal training for the band in the future. The DPCSP had been asked to provide financial support for the purchase of high visibility vests and the rental of staging, toilet provision and a public address system.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised that while the DPCSP would not usually fund such items, this was the first time that a band had engaged with the Partnership and this offered an excellent opportunity for future engagement.

- iii. Members welcomed the change in approach and suggested that if the parade went well, it may offer an opportunity for positive media attention.
- iv. Members agreed to provide funding of £1,540 to the Gertrude Star Band for the items outlined within the report.
Proposed: Alderman Tommy Sanford
Seconded: Councillor Sonia Copeland
- v. It was noted that the projects presented for approval were all due to start within a week. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that while Officers tried to plan projects in advance, it often took several weeks to obtain all the information from groups. Members suggested that should Officers have difficulty in reaching community members, the Independent DPCSP Members may be able to assist.

10. Hanwood, Diverse Summer Project

- i. Members were provided with a paper regarding a crime diversion project organised by the Hanwood Centre aimed at decreasing anti-social behaviour and alcohol and drug related offences amongst local young people.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised that this application had been developed following an unsuccessful Small Grants application, with staff working with the Centre to develop a suitable proposal.
- iii. Members were further advised that the project would bring together 55 young people over 6 weeks through sport and physical activity in order to engage with young people, improve community cohesion and discourage participation in anti-social behaviour and other risk taking behaviour. As part of the project, engagement sessions with statutory agencies were to be scheduled, however not all were confirmed as yet.
- iv. In response to a query regarding how the 55 young people would be identified, the Safer City Coordinator advised that the majority would originate from the Tullycarnett area. He also advised that the gym instructors were accredited and costs were in line with standard rates.
- v. Members agreed to fund the project as outlined to a total cost of £2,970.
Proposed: Alderman Tommy Sandford
Seconded: Councillor Carole Howard
- vi. Members welcomed Councillor Mairead O'Donnell, (who had joined the meeting during the discussion), to the Partnership.

11. Young Enterprise NI, East Belfast Project

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Young Enterprise Northern Ireland were proposing to run a project to deliver a business education programme in partnership with Charter NI to draw out the entrepreneurial capability of young people who live in a socially disadvantaged communities in East Belfast.
- ii. Members were further advised that the programme would facilitate a group of 15 young people aged between 14 - 17 years over 15 weeks and would be shaped by the participants to suit their particular needs. The Safer City Coordinator added that if successful, the programme could be rolled out within other areas.

- iii. Members welcomed the project which they felt was likely to develop employability and communication skills. It was suggested that links could be made with social enterprise hubs in order to increase the likelihood of future employment.
- iv. In response to a query regarding whether only young people involved with Charter NI would be asked to take part in the project, the Safer City Coordinator suggested that within the Letter of Offer Young Enterprise could be directed to extend the recruitment to a wider group.
- v. Following further discussion Members agreed to provide £5,699.70 of funding towards the Young Enterprise Project and to link in with the Practitioners Forum in order to widen the pool of perspective participants.
Proposed: Steven McMillen
Seconded: Jonathan Currie

12. Exploring Identity and Change

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that, in response to increased levels of reported hate crime in East Belfast, the Partnership's Project Officer had developed a proposal to tackle myths associated with migrants through the history of two prominent groups in the context of Irish History.
- ii. Members were advised that the project would involve the development of 2 publications to be used as an educational resource for secondary school aged students. The Safer City Coordinator noted that Members would be able to review the documents before production.
- iii. Members welcomed the thought behind the project but noted that the average age of those committing hate crime was 25-35 while most programmes were aimed at young people. It was also suggested that projects should involve communities during their development to ensure community buy in.
- iv. Members resolved to establish a Working Group to discuss the proposal and perhaps modify the project for an older age group, ensuring that the design was relevant for the target audience. Councillor O'Donnell, Steven McMillen, Pauline Smart and Jonathan Currie agreed to sit on the Working Group.
- v. It was also agreed that Officers would do some further background work on the proposal before convening the working group in September, 2016.

13. East Belfast Bonfires Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on bonfire sites within East Belfast, noting that:
 - Materials being gathered at Ballarat Street had been recently burnt however options to reduce the number of tyres at the site were still being considered,
 - Until recently no pallets were being collected at the Walkway site however materials had been delivered on 27th June. Members were advised that agencies were keen to prevent a reoccurrence of last year's incidents however the safety of Council staff needed to be considered, and community buy-in was important.
 - Work was ongoing at the Avoniel bonfire site given concerns about its proximity to the Punjana Tea factory,
 - Work at other sites was ongoing, with some smaller issues occurring in Castlereagh.

- ii. A Member advised the Partnership that following meetings with Tullycarnet residents, it had been agreed that the 5 bonfires held in previous years would be replaced by a beacon. He noted that this result had only been achieved by engaging all sections of the community to ensure collective buy-in.

14. Election of the Vice-Chair to the East Belfast DPCSP

- i. Members were advised that the Vice-Chair of the East Belfast DPCSP for the period of 17th August, 2016 to 16th August, 2017 would be Mr Jonathan Currie.

15. AOB/Emerging Issues

- i. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that delegated authority had been granted to Officers for the approval of spend up to £1,000, and asked if Members would be content to extend this to £2,000. He reassured Members that Members would be informed of any such spend and that a retrospective paper would be brought to the next available DPCSP Meeting.
- ii. Members agreed to grant the extended delegated authority as requested.
Proposed: Councillor Aileen Graham
Seconded: Lisa McMaster
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Council's Safer Neighbourhood Officers were now operating as one unit rather than smaller areas based teams. He encouraged Members to contact him with requests for their services which operated between 2pm – 10pm during the week and to 12am at weekends.
- iv. A Member thanked Officers for their assistance with a project involving Breda Academy and their involvement in the subsequent visit of the school to the City Hall.
- v. Members and staff passed on their congratulations to Project Officer Andrew Charles following his recent achievement in obtaining his Doctorate.

16. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members agreed to postpone the DPCSP meeting in July given the number of Members who would be absent. Members were therefore reminded that the next meeting of the East Belfast DPCSP would be held on Tuesday, 30th August.
- ii. It was agreed that an update on the progress of PACTs and the Tension Monitoring projects would be included as regular agenda items in future.